

SPACE OBSERVER

Serving Team 21 and its Global Mission
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Friday, May 11, 2001

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Vol. 45 No. 19

Briefly

Commanders call slated for June

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler will conduct wing commander's calls June 7 and 8 at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the base auditorium. All wing members are invited to attend, however, commander's call is mandatory for military members.

Commentary

America recognizes contributions of military spouses.

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Brigade Ready Division trains on Peterson flightline.

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Fitness

May Fitness activities continue

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Photo by Capt. Carlos Garcia

Contingency exercises and war games

An exercise hostage walks toward 21st Security Forces Squadron members during hostage situation exercise conducted May 3. The scenario was part of a wing-wide exercise, which lasted throughout the week and included a variety of scenarios that tested the wing's ability to respond to a crisis and contingency.

Go Knights!

Ceremony welcomes Guardian Challenge participants

By Staff Sgt.
Melissa Phillips

Guardian Challenge Public Affairs

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. - Guardian Challenge participants enjoyed a competition-first May 6: an opening ceremony.

The fast-paced, humor-filled official ceremony ushered in the 34th annual competition, which tests the best space and missile wings in the Air Force in a variety of skills. More than 200 competitors participate in the annual event held here.

"You need some sort of kickoff to get everyone together, do a little screaming and hollerin'..."

- SSgt. Gary Herren
341st Space Wing

Before 1994, when Guardian Challenge was called Olympic Arena, all the wings would fly their teams in one

right after the other. So when teams exited the airplane, the waiting generals and officials greeted them at that time.

In the early 1990s, after the Air Force reorganized and downsized, many units lost their airlift capability. When this happened, it took some of the military 'gusto' out of the Guardian Challenge opening ceremony because teams often arrived at Vandenberg several hours and even days apart from each other.

According to Staff Sgt. Gary Herren, a 341st Space Wing competitor from Malmstrom AFB, Mont., the opening ceremony was better than the informal gatherings in previous years.

"You need some sort of kickoff to get everyone together, do a little screaming and hollerin' and find out who is officiating the event," Herren said.

"We tried to put as much humor into the opening ceremonies as we could," said Maj. Doug Smith, 2001 Guardian Challenge competition lead.



U.S. Air Force photo

Staff Sgt. Barton Bosarge, mascot for the 21st Space Wing Knights, arrives at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., with the rest of the 21st SW Guardian Challenge team Sunday.

"We are all here to do a job, but we should enjoy it while we're doing it."

Following last year's competition, Smith sought a way to put prominence back into Guardian Challenge's opening events. He brainstormed with other Guardian Challenge officials, including Chris Zenor, motion media chief for the 30th Space Wing at Vandenberg.

Last year, both men trav-

eled to Pope AFB, N.C., to watch the opening ceremonies for the Airlift Rodeo and gather ideas. Soon after, they developed this year's "Space Odyssey" theme and theatrics.

Smith is pleased with how the ceremony turned out.

"It takes a lot of things to make things happen (for a successful opening ceremony)," Smith said. "But when you get a lot of people involved, you can pull this off."

America honors military members, spouses

May has been designated as National Military Appreciation Month.

This is a time for all Americans to reflect on the sacrifices made by millions of our fellow citizens who have served the cause of freedom throughout our history.

We also set aside May 11th to recognize the sacrifices made by the wives and husbands of those who wear our country's uniform.

It is appropriate that we do so, because service in today's military really means service as a team — the member and the spouse. Both roles are critical, and both roles ensure the success

of our missions at home and abroad.

I am proud to say that the American people hold in high esteem our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and coastguardsmen who protect this nation and safeguard its principles. Our men and women in uniform show great courage and fortitude in the face of danger as they carry out their mission to preserve freedom.

Military spouses, too, face daunting challenges. They must manage the unique demands military life places on them and their families. Dealing with deployments, family separations, and frequent moves requires great sac-

rifice and a special commitment.

For more than two centuries, military spouses have proven that they are up to these challenges. Their support and dedication provide a vital element of stability to service members and to our military communities.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I join all Americans in paying tribute to the members of our armed forces — active, guard and reserve — and their spouses for all they have done, and all they continue to do, to serve our nation.

Gen. Henry H. Shelton
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Since 1984 the military services have set aside one day each year to honor the special members of the military team—our military spouses. This year, the secretary of defense has designated May 11 as Military Spouses Day.

This is a wonderful opportunity to thank the ones who give us the support and love we need while we serve our nation. We don't hold parades in honor of our military spouses; we don't give them medals for courage or bravery or sacrifice; they don't earn promotions for their efforts, but they are a vital part of our force.

You will find them waving good-bye when we deploy, maintaining the household and caring for the children alone while we're away, and waving banners when we return. In the face of countless challenges, our spouses respond with loyalty and dedication, not only to us, but to our services and the nation. Indeed, they serve with the same honor, pride and commitment as we do.

Today we have the opportunity to turn the spotlight on our spouses and acknowledge their contributions to us and to the community. Let's make sure they know we are grateful for all they do for our nation.

Gen. Ed Eberhart
Commander
Air Force Space Command

Action line

Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

Resource
information
for military
spouses can
be found at

www.afcrossroads.com

Moving on: greener grass may not be so green

By Captain Anthony Wilko
21st Communication Squadron

Inevitably, at some point in your service, you'll wonder whether a 20-year military career is really for you. Although the Air Force has tried to make life a little easier for all of us — with increased pay and promises of less time away from home — you still may wonder if life on the "outside" might be a little nicer.

Let me just start by saying if you're thinking about getting out solely because you want to make more money, think again. Sure, it can make a not-so-great job a little easier, and it helps pay the bills off a little faster, but at what cost? Let's find out.

I've got about six weeks before I separate from the Air Force. You might think I'm a little biased, but the truth is I thought long and hard about why I wanted to leave and it all came down to goals I want to achieve in life. The things I want to do now just won't happen while I'm in the military. Still, I walk away from the Air Force with newfound appreciation for what the U.S. armed forces do and the places we help keep free, day in and day out.

I've been job-hunting for over a month now, in the supposedly-hot information technology field. With my Air Force Academy degree and strong technical skills in the communications field, I had thought this process would be a lot less stressful than it is turning out to be. Not having Uncle Sam to rely on for my nice, steady paycheck and losing my medical benefits are daunting thoughts. No more guaranteed pay raises. No more guaranteed retirement benefits after 20 years. No more non-taxable VHA.

Currently, I make a pretty decent salary for the level of experience I have, as do most of us, and let's face it, the benefits are pretty good. But, looking at the flip side, in the corporate world I'll be able to pick and choose from jobs I'm offered, have more opportunities to make more money in less time, be offered a 401K plan (most likely with at least some sort of matching), and I won't have to move until I'm ready to.

But, to make sure I had all my facts in order I decided to compare military pay to the outside. What I found was rather surprising. The

information from family support shows a local area E-4 with a spouse, two children, and four years of service making \$30,314 a year versus a comparable, experienced local area civilian making a \$37,000 annual salary.

The E-4 makes a base pay of \$1,576 and \$950 in non-taxable VHA totaling \$2,526 per month. The civilian makes \$3,083 per month, all of which is taxable. As a result, federal income tax withheld for the E-4 is \$83 compared with \$309 for the civilian. Social Security withheld is \$97 for the E-4 and \$191 for the civilian. Medicare is \$20 for the enlisted member and \$44 for the civilian. Finally, state income tax withheld is zero for the enlisted member (based on a state with no out-of-state income tax) and \$109 in Colorado state tax for the civilian.

The net result for the enlisted member is \$2,326 per month in his or her pocket. However, the civilian still has to pay \$186 in health insurance premiums for himself and his family. This leaves the civilian member with \$2,244. As a result, the civilian ends up with \$82 less than the enlisted

member, but has to make over \$6,000 more a year in salary.

And don't forget to take into account the civilian also has to pay for things like gym memberships, increased vehicle registration costs, increased childcare, and higher cost of food and sundry items (can't use the BX and commissary anymore). Sure, this won't apply to everyone, but hopefully it'll prompt you to raise an eyebrow or two and break out the calculator.

So the short of it is, before you decide to get out, make sure you take time to make an informed decision, then run the numbers to figure out exactly what salary you need to meet your current or desired standard of living.

Go to sites like www.salary.com to find out what a civilian with your skills makes in your desired locale, and look into opportunities like the Air National Guard or Reserve so you can hang on to some of those decent military benefits.

With talk of recession and current business slowdowns, the grass may not be as green as you thought.

Space Observer

Published by the Gazette, 30 S. Prospect Street, Box 1779, Colorado Springs, 80901, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 21st Space Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Space Observer are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs Office, 775 Loring Ave., Suite 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The Space Observer is published every Friday. For advertising inquiries, call the Gazette, (719) 636-0325 for display ads, and 476-1663 for classified ads.

Articles for the Space Observer should be submitted to the 21st SW/PAI, Attn: Space Observer, 775 Loring Ave., Ste. 218, Peterson AFB, Colo., 80914-1294. Deadline for submission is 4:30 p.m. the Wednesday one week before publication. All articles, copy and announcements submitted will be edited to conform to AFI Series 35 and the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual. For details, call the editor at (719) 556-7846 or DSN 834-7846.

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Don't be victimized by Fraud

By MSgt David L. Pitts
721st Security Forces Squadron

We've all seen stories on television or in the newspaper concerning fraud victims. Scams range from the elaborate to extremely simple and they all manage to dupe a lot of people. From phony contests and door-to-door donation collections to bogus investment schemes, thousands of people each year fall victim to fraud. Across the nation and locally, incidents of fraud are increasing significantly.

You might have been a potential victim and didn't know it. Have you ever had a telemarketer call you to request personal information in order to send you a free gift or prize? If they ask for your birth date and social security number, you should become suspicious. That information is all you need to steal someone's identity.

Here's a case that happened to me. A teenager came to my house one day selling overpriced items from a large plastic storage container. Sound familiar? He said it was to raise money for a school project. I asked him what the project was and the name of the school, along with several other questions. He had a very well rehearsed sales pitch and answer to all my questions.

I try to be generous to worthy

causes, so I told him he could come back the next day after I confirmed his information with the school. He never came back and the school was not conducting a fundraiser. It can be very easy to "get taken". You may think it could never happen, but I'll bet that's what most people said before they fell prey to a scam. You can protect yourself from becoming a victim of fraud by following some of these tips:

Don't allow yourself to be pushed into a hurried decision.

No matter what you're told, at least 99 percent of everything that's a good deal today will still be a good deal a week from now. The other one percent isn't worth the risk you'd take to find out.

Don't make any investment or purchase you don't fully understand. Swindlers intentionally seek individuals who don't know what they're doing.

Check out the company or organization. Contact the Better Business Bureau or research the company yourself to find out if it's reputable.

If a major investment or purchase is involved, get an evaluation and an opinion from a trusted source (broker, lawyer).

Swindlers don't want you to seek a second opinion. Their reluctance or evasiveness could be your tip-off.

Ask what recourse you would have if you make a purchase and aren't satisfied.

If there's a guarantee or refund provision, get it in writing. Make sure you're satisfied the business will stand behind its guarantee before making a final financial commitment.

Beware of testimonials that you have no way of checking out. They may involve nothing more than someone being paid a fee to speak well of a product or service.

Don't provide personal financial information over the phone unless you are absolutely certain the caller has a genuine need to know. That goes especially for your credit card numbers and bank account information. The only time you should give anyone your credit card number is if you've decided to use it to make a purchase.

If necessary, hang up. If you become subject to high-pressure sales tactics, can't obtain information you want or get evasive answers, or if you hear your own better judgment saying you may be making a serious mistake, just say good-bye.

This isn't an all-inclusive list, but you get the idea. It's your money, you work hard for it and you shouldn't be willing to part with it on a whim. Take these precautions so you don't end up as one of an ever-growing statistic: a

Be proud to serve the best Air Force in the world

By Senior Airman Dean Witt
368th Recruiting Squadron Public Affairs

Hill AIR FORCE BASE, Utah - The other day I walked into a restaurant on my way back from a school visit. There I met a man who served in the Army/Air Force during World War II. He told me stories about his time in the war and in the service. He was proud of what he had done. And then he thanked me for what I do. He thanked me for serving my country.

After I left the restaurant it dawned on me. Now, I've always known that serving my country through the Air Force is a great honor for me. But I also realized that it's a privilege, too.

I think a lot of America has forgotten what patriotism is. It's really not their fault. There have been no major wars since Vietnam. The economy has been booming for a decade.

I think it's important for us to know what patriotism is. It's important for everyone in the Air Force to know.

Every time we put on this uniform we are saying that no one is going to hurt us or our families or the freedom by which we live. We are the best air and space force in the world and, considering the way wars are fought these days, we are undoubtedly the best service in the world.

So be proud because you serve. As you all know, not just anyone can join our service. Stand tall, because without you and the hundreds of thousands serving across the globe, none of us would be free.

We are the world's protectors. No one comes close.

AFSPC commander addresses retention, recruitment challenges

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

While the U.S. military's top officer on space issues knows the importance of satellite imagery to worldwide national security missions, he also appreciates the value of the military and civilians under his command.

"What really concerns me is recruiting and retaining the right people," said Gen. Ed Eberhart, commander, Air Force Space Command. That concern transcends even worries over his budget and whether the command is harnessing technology properly, he said.

AFSPC and three other organizations under Eberhart's command have "great people, and we're proud of them," he said. The general also commands the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Space Command and is the Department of Defense manager for Manned Space Flight Support Operations at Peterson.

Recruitment and retention of "the right quality of people," he said, is of paramount importance to technology-oriented organizations such as his. Eberhart said the military so far has done a good job of recruiting quality people despite difficulties caused by recent, robust economic times.

"The challenge is retaining them," he said. "Other people want them, too, and other people are willing to pay a lot more than we can." He said civilian employers want troops who have valuable technical training and experience under their belts.

Some people, Eberhart said, believe that bonuses and higher salaries can solve military recruiting and retention issues. They're only part of the solution, he noted.

"We're working those type of things, but remember, bonuses don't go with you in retirement," he said. "When you retire, you go back to



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp
Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, administers the oath of enlistment to Senior Airman Crisanto Quinto late last year.

your base pay, and that is not lost on our people."

However, Eberhart believes most people join for reasons other than money. "If they were truly in it just for the money, they'd never come to us," he said.

Service members need "to be properly trained and equipped so they have state-of-the-art equipment (and) have challenging and rewarding things to do," Eberhart said.

"We have to make it very clear to them that we appreciate what they're doing and that they're doing important work for our nation," he said.

Retention success is also tied to the quality of support provided to members' families, which expect available, affordable child care, quality health care and housing, he said.

Essentially, he noted, service members' contributions to national defense are priceless.

"We're never going to be able to pay them what they are worth," Eberhart said. "You just can't pay someone enough to say to them: 'Be on the flight line tomorrow morning at 5, and we can't tell you where you're going or how long you're going to stay.' But they ought not to suffer serving this nation."

Let's play!

Who Wants to Win \$1,000?

1. To be eligible to win \$1,000, you must be a member of

A. Sam's Club	C. Diner's Club
B. Kennel Club	D. PAFB E-Club/O'Club

2. At the time of the drawing, you must

A. Start singing	C. Shake hands
B. Be present	D. Suck up

3. To claim the \$1,000, you must show

A. Your passport	C. A sense of humor
B. Family photo	D. Current Club card

Transfer your club membership to Peterson's Enlisted Club or Officers' Club so you can play "Who Wants to Win \$1,000" (or more) every Friday.

* Jackpot increases by \$100 each week that there is no winner.



**By Capt Jason Schreuder
and Maj. Kevin Dunbaugh**
1st Command and Control Squadron

Catch your favorite show on satellite TV and they'll be there. Hop on an airplane and they'll watch over you. Call your best friend on your cell phone and they'll be there too.

Who are they? The 21st Space Wing 1st Command and Control Squadron at Cheyenne Mountain, and they perform a mission unlike any other in the world.

Although the 1st CACS has been around since December 1989, the unit has a

new look and an expanded mission. Oct. 1, the 1st CACS transitioned from performing a side mission in the U.S. Space Command Space Control Center to executing the entire space surveillance and protection mission.

Even though the 1st CACS still supports the USCINCSpace operational mission of providing freedom for friendly forces to operate in space, the 1st CACS and the SCC are now completely owned and operated by Air Force Space Command through the 21st SW.

To accomplish its opera-

tional mission, the 1st CACS provides round-the-clock forces in the SCC, increasing manpower from an initial contingent of 48 people to a full-fledged squadron of 111 U.S. military members, four Canadian military members, nine civilians and 12 contractors.

Operational teams (10-member crews) ensure freedom of action in space for friendly forces through surveillance and protection. The space surveillance mission consists of detecting all new space launches from any country in the world.

Once a launch is detected, crews track the objects via a worldwide sensor network made up of 22 radar and optical tracking stations. Crews then identify each piece of the launch (payloads, rocket bodies, platforms and pieces of debris) and catalog them in the world's only complete satellite catalog. Over 250 military, civilian and academic institutions use this catalog to maintain current status on objects in space.

The SCC continues to track all objects in orbit until they reenter the earth's atmosphere or are sent into a super-synchronous orbit. This reen-



Photos by Capt. Jason Schreuder

SSgt. Gilbert Orcilla demonstrates his ability to do a variety of tasks at one time.

try assessment is a crucial part of the job and supports a 1972 treaty to reduce the threat of outbreak of nuclear war between the U.S. and the former Soviet Union. The assessment can also serve as a critical step in alerting the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Canadian Preparedness Council in the event an object survives reentry and is expected to impact somewhere in North America.

Knowing the location of all objects in space enables SCC crews to protect them against a variety of threats.

The most important protection mission, however, is ensuring freedom of flight for participants in our manned space program. This includes astronauts aboard the shuttle, from launch to safe return, as

well as astronauts living aboard the international space station.

Crews provide this protection through a process called "collision avoidance," which involves drawing an imaginary, protective box around a manned object and "flying out" 72 hours into the future. If any other space object enters that protective box, the crew notifies the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

To date, NASA has moved the shuttle 10 times and the international space station three times as a result of information the SCC provided.

The men and women of the 1st CACS maintain vigilance over space and ensure the Air Force is free to operate in the high frontier.



Capt. Aaron Bass and Capt. Lance Jones keep vigilant watch over the 1st CACS' mission of command and control.

JAGs celebrate law day with area schools

May 1, 2001 marked the 44th year that Law Day has been observed on May 1. This year's observance focused on how laws help protect the most vulnerable members of society: young people.

For more than 100 years, American courts and legislatures have required that decisions be in the best interests of the child. Protecting the best interests of the child is a legal standard used by courts in

child custody disputes and many other cases involving young people, and is one example of how the American legal system protects the rights and interests of the most powerless.



Capt. Paul Dawson, 21st Space Wing legal office, talks about the American legal system, specifically how the military legal system works, during Law Day May 1. JA members spoke with students at various area schools.

This year, Peterson Air Force Base military attorneys and paralegals visited several District 11 area schools to explain their careers in law and how the military legal system protects children. Pete legal representatives included Capt Paul Dawson, 1st Lt. Rob Ramirez, 1st Lt. Jenny Johnson, Staff Sgt. Tracy Reagan-Ogas and Staff Sergeant Robert Young. Schools they visited included Wilson Elementary, Howbert Elementary, Mann Middle School, East Middle School, Coronado High, Mitchell High, Tesla Educational Opportunity Program, Tesla Middle School and Spring Creek Youth Services Center.

Courtesy photo

(Article courtesy, 21st Space Wing Legal Office)

Guardian Challenge chefs *fire up* the competition

By Staff Sgt. Mary Danner
Guardian Challenge Public Affairs

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. - For the second year, the three-event chefs' competition continues to add flavor to Guardian Challenge.

As Guardian Challenge kicked off May 7, chefs from three separate space wings competed for top honors at the annual Air Force space and missile competition.

"The services competition shows our warfighting capabilities to the command," said Master Sgt. John Fitzgerald, Air Force Space Command chief of training for services.

The chefs, who normally prepare meals for airmen at missile alert facilities, are scored on three separate events: safety, marksmanship and food preparation.

Competition between the wing chefs began with the safety event. The event consisted of each team lighting an M-2 burner to simulate cooking in field conditions.

The second event was the live-fire chef marksmanship competition. The M-16 portion "shows our go-to-war skills," said Fitzgerald.

The final event of the competition is the food preparation evaluations, scheduled to be held May 8 and 9. Each wing team will draw one of five scenario cards that dictate what kind of meal they will prepare.

The goal of the competition between chefs, said Fitzgerald, is not only to further train for wartime, but to recognize how crucial their support is to the command and its mission.

"Any time we get out in front of people where they can actually see what we do is good for us," said Staff Sgt. Pedro Villa, 50th Space Wing Services team from Schriever AFB, Colo.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer C. Wallis

Airman 1st Class Frank Collins, 21st Services Squadron, adjusts a field burner flame during the chef safety competition Monday at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., for Guardian Challenge 2001.



Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

Telling the Air Force story

Senior Airman LaToya Hawkins, 21st Military Personnel Flight, describes some Air Force-unique career opportunities to students at Falcon Middle School during the annual career day April 20. Various businesses and services sent representatives.



Photo by Glen Plummer

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, (far left) and Chief Master Sgt. Fred Schoettler, wing command chief (far right) pose with the 21st SW award winners.

21SW names quarterly award winners

The 21st Space Wing quarterly award winners were named during a luncheon held at the enlisted club last week. Winners include Company Grade Officer of the Quarter Capt Jonathan P. Davis, 21st Operations Group; Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter Master Sgt. Nancy A. Kujak, 10th Medical Group; NCO of the Quarter Master Sgt. David C. Pressley, 821st Support Group; Airman of the Quarter: Senior Airman Calvin G. Roebuck, 821st SG; Category III Civilian of the Quarter

Larry D. Ozburn, 21st Logistics Group; Category II Civilian of the Quarter Thomas M. Lancy, 821st SG; Category I Civilian of the Quarter Michele L. Noxon, 821st SG; High Frontier Honor Guard NCO of the Quarter Master Sgt. Gerald Sonntag, and High Frontier Airman of the Quarter Senior Airman Robert N. Carranza.

A new trophy made its debut, as well. The commander's Spirit Award, presented for the first time, went to the 21st Logistics Group.

News Briefs

21st Space Wing personnelist named Misawa award winner

Tech. Sgt. Ellie Lightner, personnel specialist assigned to the 3rd Space Surveillance Squadron, Misawa Air Base, Japan, was named Misawa Personnelist of the Quarter for the first quarter, 2001.

Peterson phone procedures to change to DOD standard plan

Peterson Air Force Base will change to the Department of Defense standardized telephone-dialing plan beginning May 19. Emergency numbers 911 and 117 will not be affected. The changes are as follows:

- To reach off-base numbers dial 99 plus the seven-digit number, instead of 9 and the number.
- To reach long-distance numbers dial 98-1-area code-seven digits.
- DSN will also change to 94 instead of 81 or 88; priority and above DSN access will require operator assistance.

July pay raise set for E-5 through E-7

Thanks to the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act, E-5s to E-7s with six to 26 years of service will tap into a pay raise July 1. Unlike last year's July 1 pay table reform where 75 percent of military members saw a raise, this year's raise rewards promotion over longevity. However, the pay raise for January 1, 2002 will be a minimum of 4.6 percent for all.

Flagpole dedication, promotion ceremonies combine June 1

The June 1 noncommissioned officer promotion/induction ceremony will take place at the new base flag plaza, west of Bldg 845, at 3:30 p.m., and will be held in conjunction with the dedication ceremony for the new wing flag plaza. For more information, contact Tech. Sergeant George Hinojos, 556-2108.

Red Cross needs teen volunteers

As summer nears, so also does the beginning of the annual American Red Cross Youth Volunteer Program. The program solicits support from young adults who will be 14 years old or older by June 1. Teen participants will have opportunities to work within various departments at the Air Force Academy hospital. For more information or to volunteer for the youth program, call 556-7590.

Mission Support Squadron closes

The 21st Mission Support Squadron will close at noon June 1 for an official function. For ID cards or to enroll in DEERS, go to the at the Air Force Academy (Bldg. 5136), Fort Carson (Bldg. 1118) or Schriever Air

STAR PERFORMER



NAME: Airman 1st Class Monique C. Wright
UNIT: 721st Civil Engineer Squadron
JOB TITLE: Information Management Apprentice
TIME IN SERVICE: one year
HOMETOWN: Tacoma, Washington
ABOUT WRIGHT:

Airman 1st Class Monique Wright is an information management apprentice, she performs a variety of duties including monitoring squadron leave, tracking performance feedback, processing TDY orders, configuring, installing and maintaining computer peripherals, and assisting

work information management system administrator.

In addition to her duty responsibilities, she is heavily involved with community activities and supports such events as the Garden of the Gods Club charity auction for the Children's Literacy Fund which raised more than \$120,000. She also volunteers at the Marian House soup kitchen, helping feed the less fortunate, and helped plan the Cheyenne Mountain Complex's annual picnic.

Since the 721st Civil Engineer Squadron is out-sourcing, she is slated for a permanent change of assignment to the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron in June.

Wright has been married for three years and she and her husband, Shane, have a 17-month old son (Isaiah) and are expecting their second child. Wright spends her spare time and weekends with her family. Her immediate goals are to finish her career development course, then pursue a bachelor of arts degree in advertising and graphic design.



Courtesy photo

Visit from the chief

Maj. Samuel McNeil, Detachment 3, 18th Space Surveillance Squadron commander, explains the unit's role in determining the locations of objects in orbit around the earth to Gen. Michael E. Ryan, United States Air Force Chief of Staff. Ryan, was on Maui Friday to review operations at the Maui Space Surveillance Complex.

Time to REENLIST?

Have WE got a deal for YOU!

Thunderbird commander Lt. Col. John Venable will administer the oath of enlistment to reenlistees during ceremonies at Chapel Hills Mall at 3:30 p.m. May 30. The required attire is service dress. For more information, contact Peterson Air Force Base Career Assistance Advisor, Master Sgt. Laura Velasquez at 556-4824 NLT May 23.



Terminal manag Galactic m

A C-5 Galaxy from Dover AFB, Del., dwarfs other aircraft on the Peterson AFB runway. Flown here by a reserve aircrew, the aircraft was used to help train Fort C



Soldiers from Fort Carson wait on the flightline while Air Force Reserve aircrew members prepare the C-5, from Dover AFB, Del.

**Story and photos by
Master Sgt. D.K. Grant**
21 SW Public Affairs

It was no surprise last month when the Peterson air terminal was named Air Force Space Command Air Terminal Unit of the Year and the AFSPC Transportation Activity of the Year. With a staff of only seven active duty members, who range from a senior airman to a technical sergeant, the unit handles literally tons of work every year.

In addition to processing 16,000-plus passengers last year, air terminal operations moved 1.9 million pounds of cargo and luggage, all on more than 3,000 planes. Those staggering numbers are expected to go up for calendar year 2001, according to Tech. Sgt. Nelson Delvalle, air terminal operations NCOIC, in part because of a new deployment requirement levied against Fort Carson.

Fort Carson has recently picked up a Division Ready Brigade tasking (similar to an air expeditionary forces tasking) and in preparation for deployment, soldiers have begun DRB static load training here at Peterson.

Fort Carson and Peterson personnel worked together with a reserve aircrew out of Delaware two weeks ago in their first-ever joint static load training. Soldiers learned how to prepare their equipment for transport, how to guide it onto an aircraft and how to properly tie it down. What may seem like simple tasks actually were not, since Carson's equipment included a Bradley fighting vehicle, an Abrams battle tank, an HMMV (humvee), a tank rescue vehicle and a fuel tanker.

Fortunately, the aircraft available for the first training session was more than up to the task: a C-5 Galaxy here from Dover Air Force Base, said Delvalle, can accommodate six Greyhound buses, or

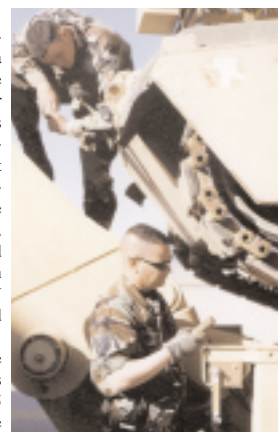
maybe six Apache helicopters.

Despite the mammoth capacity of the Galaxy, if this were a real deployment for Carson's DRB, it would require nine airlift missions to haul the four Abrams, 10 Bradleys, two tankers and nine Humvees on the lading ticket.

Preparation and coordination for the training required some close-work between Delvalle's team, the soldiers at Fort Carson, the 302nd Airlift Wing here and the 436th AW and 512th AW at Dover. It was the first of what will be on-going training, with the next session tentatively slated for mid-May. Soldiers will practice loading equipment on a C-17 during that session.

In addition to routine terminal operations and Air Force deployments, the air terminal team could well end up supporting Fort Carson's transportation needs in operations like Joint Guardian and Southern Watch, on top of support already provided 10th Special Forces.

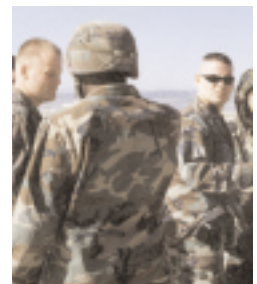
For a reserve flying mission, the 21st air terminal operations team has a pretty big load, so it's no wonder it was named the command's best.



Delvalle checks the tank treads before clearing it for load on the C-5.



Above: 21st Logistics Group A inspect cargo containers prior loaded on the C-5. Pictured are Sergeants Michael Moffett, Mic (tor) and Jamey Colben. **Below** Delvalle, terminal operations N protectors to members of his c diers before allowing them to c craft and Army vehicles. Safety air terminal team.



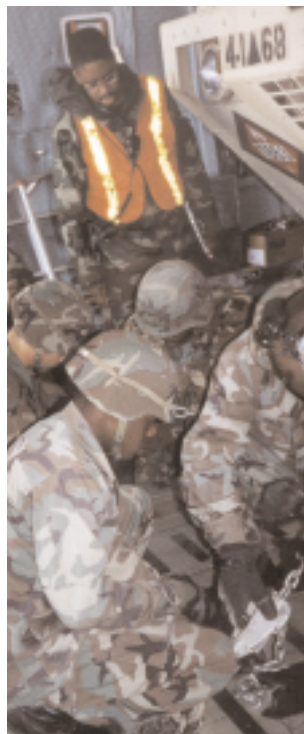


The operator at left takes a break while fellow soldiers prepare the tank to be loaded on the C-5. Below: Soldiers and airmen watch as the tank rolls into the cavernous Galaxy cargo bay via the nose cone entry.

Carson soldiers on cargo tie-down procedures.



Air terminal members work on allowing the tank to be loaded. (left to right) Staff Sergeant Nelson (lead safety inspector), Tech. Sergeant Nelson (NCOIC), passes out hearing protection to the crew and Fort Carson soldiers near the running airway. Safety is the first priority for the



Fort Carson soldiers, above, practice proper tie-down procedures in preparation to load the tank below on a C-5 from Dover AFB, Delaware.



Full page ad

New Items

Space symposium slated: The Lance P. Sijan chapter of the Air Force Association will partner with Air Force Space Command to sponsor the Space Operations 2001 symposium. The ice-breaker will be May 23 and the symposium the 24th, both at the Broadmoor Hotel.

Symposium topics will cover the latest developments as the Air Force responds to the report of the commission to assess United States national security space management and organization.

Speakers include the commanders of Air Force Space Command, Air Combat Command and Air Force Materiel Command, as well as other key commanders and experts in civil and commercial space. Discussions will cover space control, space launch, and protection of space infrastructure and the utilization of space assets in combat.

For more information, visit the chapter Website, www.afasijan.com, or contact Judy Arnold, judy.arnold@lmco.com, 622-2528, or Marcia Santucci, mlsantucci@tasc.com, 638-1305, Ext. 3001. To register, contact Arnold.

TROA picnic set: The Pikes Peak chapter of the Retired Officers Association will host a spring picnic for all members June 9, noon-5 p.m., at the Turkey Creek recreation area. For more information or to sign up, call Paul McKean at 282-0187, or Mark Milardo at 488-8531.

NAF store opens: The nonappropriated fund resale store is open for business Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., and is located in Bldg. 675, the outdoor recreation facility. The store has no telephone number so interested shoppers must visit the store to see and purchase merchandise.

Outdoor rec teaches kayaking: A spring kayak pool class will be May 21, 23, 25 and 30, and will cost \$30 for all four sessions. Enrollment is limited to five or six people. The first session meets at 7:30 a.m. at the aquatics center and the last three classes meet at 8 p.m. at the center. For details and to register, call outdoor recreation at 556-4867 or 556-4487.

Golfers meet at Silver Spruce: A junior golf meeting will be May 26, noon-12:30 p.m., at the golf course. May 24 is ladies' day at the course, from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call 556-7414.

Skills center offers deal: Balance four tires for the price of three May 23-25 at the auto skills center. For more information, call 556-4481.

Volunteers, drivers needed: Drivers are needed to take adventure seekers out to the untamed regions of Colorado. If you are interested, call Scott Hackney at 556-4867 or 556-4487. Volunteers are also needed to help with outdoor recreation's adventures in the wet-and-wild high country, supporting activities like rafting, camping, hiking, canoeing and more. Call Hackney for more information.

Free continental breakfast: Enlisted club and officers' club members are invited to enjoy a free continental breakfast every Monday, 6:30-9 a.m., at the officers' club. The breakfast is one of various club membership benefits. For membership information, call the enlisted club at 556-4194, or officers' club at 574-4100.

Family Support Center 556-6141

Classes are held in the family support center classroom, 135 Dover Street, Bldg. 350, Room 1016, unless otherwise specified. Registration is required for all FSC classes. To register, call the FSC at 556-6141 or stop by the FSC classroom.

Volunteer opportunities: School District 2 needs volunteers to help with two elementary school field

days May 23, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at Centennial Elementary (near Academy and Chelton), and May 25, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at Monterey Elementary (near Circle and Monterey). Volunteers will be race starters, finishing order scorekeepers and announcers at various stations.

The U.S. Air Force Academy and the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, will host the National Science Olympiad May 19. Volunteers are needed to distribute information and materials and help judge the various competitions. Three shifts are available: 6:30-9 a.m., 7:30-11:30 a.m., or 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Lunch and a T-shirt will be provided, free, to all volunteers. To volunteer for either activity, contact Nikki Laughlin by close of business Monday at 556-6141 or 556-9268.

Career marketing: FSC will sponsor a workshop to help attendees learn to conduct an effective job search, write a competitive resume and interview effectively for a job. The workshop will be Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon.

Small business: A class on how to establish a small business will be held May 24, 8 a.m.-noon, and there will be a \$15 fee to cover materials.

Resume review class: An employment team will teach resume review class participants to improve their resumes in order to get the job they want. The course will be May 30, 9-11 a.m. To take advantage of the program, participants must bring a draft copy of their resumes.

Job orientation: A job orientation class will offer an overview of information on the local job market and how the FSC can help seekers in their search. Orientations will be May 24 and 31, 1-2:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center 556-7671



The Garden of the Gods walking tour listed in the May 4 Observer will be May 25 only; not May 26.

Walk for points: Earn fitness month points when you take a trip to the Garden of the Gods with the community activities center, May 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wear your hiking boots and comfortable clothes. You should bring your own lunch but the CAC will provide water and sodas. Cost is \$10

per person. Registration deadline is May 23. For more information or to register, call 556-1733.

Baseball: Tickets for Rockies baseball games are on sale at the CAC. For more information, call 556-7671.

Miscellaneous

Fly for less at FTC: The flight training center offers discounts this month, including a \$10 per hour discount on all cross-country flights over four hours on May 26. Club members can save 2.5 percent at the FTC on charges of \$50 or more when paying with a club card. For more information, call the flight training center at 556-4310.

Strike Zone offers specials: May is National Egg Salad Month and in observance of the occasion, the bowling center's Strike Zone Café special throughout May is an egg salad sandwich. May 22, in honor of National Maritime Day, the café will offer a fish special. Bowling center summer hours begin May 20, although the center is actually closed May 20 and 21. For information on bowling center activities, call 556-4607.

You could win \$\$\$: Club members who patronize the club Friday evenings after 5 could leave \$1,000 richer. Membership drawings are held Fridays in the officers and enlisted clubs. To participate, members must have their current club card and must be present to win. For more information, call Garry Shaffer at 556-4194, or Ray Hill or Joyce Caso at 574-4100.

Calendars 556-7220

Youth center

May 18: Teen lock-in, 8 p.m.-7 a.m.
May 19: Teen video game-a-thon, 6-11 p.m.
May 19, 26: Soccer, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
May 22, 29: Keystone meeting, 5:30 p.m. For details call 556-7220.

Fitness center

May 18: Armed Forces Day 5K fun run, 11:30 a.m., fitness center.
May 21-24: Five-on-five soccer tournament, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
May 21-24: Shuffleboard tournament, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., fitness center.

Pick up a fitness month calendar at the center.

Military Personnel Flight 556-7377

Colonels, colonel selects: The Air Force colonel matters office will announce projected vacancies and application procedures for summer 2002 AFROTC detachment Commander/Professor of Aerospace Studies positions May 15. Application packages are due July 15. For additional information, refer to the AFCMO Web site: www.colonels.hq.af.mil or contact MPF customer service, 556-7377. Ask for bulletin 10.

New hours of operation: Walk-in hours for all work centers other than customer service (promotions, evaluations, separations, etc.) are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Only customers with appointments will be served from 8-10 a.m. The customer service counter will remain open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Enlisted Club 556-4194

Mother's Day Buffet: A Mother's Day buffet featuring roast beef, baked cod, breakfast items and more will be served Sunday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Mothers get a \$2 discount. Reservations are required. Call the club to make reservations.

Fitness month lunch: You can get points on your fitness month participation card when you order the enlisted club's fitness month lunch feature, turkey on rye, available May 21-25.

Officers' Club 556-4181

Mother's Day buffet: A Mother's Day buffet featuring prime rib, poached salmon, breakfast items and much more will be served May 13. Seating times are 10 and 11 a.m. and 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. Reservations only. Call 574-4100 for reservations.

Live Maine lobster: Reservations are required for the lobster dinner special set for May 25, 6-8 p.m. The menu will include a 1½-pound lobster, tossed salad, vegetable and rice for \$14.95 per person. For reservations, call 574-4100.

Gourmet dinner night: It's gourmet dinner night at the officers' club May 26, 6 p.m. The menu will feature sliced tenderloin with a side of lobster Newburg, for \$35 per person plus gratuity. Reservations are limited to 32 people, so call 574-4100 to reserve a seat.

Commissary

No SSN required: Commissary customers are no longer required to write social security numbers on personal checks. SSNs will be entered into the system from identification cards to provide a link to the checks, but SSNs will be accessed only in the event a check is returned for insufficient funds.

Full page ad

CONDOR CREST

Members of the 21st Space Wing spent last week testing their knowledge and honing their crisis skills during the recurring Condor Crest exercise. Significant-impact scenarios included a joint 21st SW/302nd Airlift Wing response to a hostage situation on-board a 302nd C-130, and a hazardous fluid leak at the hazmat pharmacy near the civil

engineer compound. Those events were captured on film and are pictured here.



Exercise professional performers named



Photos by Capt. Carlos Garcia



Military members identified by exercise evaluators as professional performers include Maj. David Jensen, Capt. Jeffrey Holt, 1st Lt. Jason Powell, Senior Master Sgt. Michael Clark, Master Sgts Cyrus Cooper, Rob Baker, Jeff Crim, Carlos Garcia and Mark Silver; Tech. Sgts Daniel Leon and Dean Bayens, Staff Sgts Phil Goodman, Andy Heath, Marvin Harris, Trevor Parson, Doug Droz, Patrick Needham, Kirk Kolodziej, Burchell Franklin, Ivy Powell, Jay Triplet, Tony Jarrel and Michael Johnson, Senior Airmen Mathew Lancaster and Aliex Kofoed, Airmen 1st Class Elizabeth Bates and Micaela Burt and Airman Rosalin Hunter. Civilians include Christina Fornander, Judy Ringdahl, Robert Crow, Dennis Skinner, Dominic Hagan, and David Reynolds. Local community support members noted included Andy Pittman, Melissa and Nathan Picher and Mike Evers.



Clockwise from top left : An exercise volunteer exits a 302nd Airlift Wing C-130 during a simulated hostage crisis event; fire department representatives double-check equipment before responding to a simulated hazardous material emergency; volunteer "victims" are decontaminated once rescued from the contaminated area during the hazmat exercise; emergency responders Staff Sergeants Burchell Franklin (left) and Jake Chung don safety gear before entering the contaminated area; a security forces representative attempts to prevent "dis-trought family members" from crossing the entry control point during the C-130 hostage exercise. Vile weather lent realism to the various Condor Crest exercise scenarios.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Gino Mattorano

Putt shot

Tim Wallace, AFSPC/DO, takes a shot during intramural golf action Wednesday. Intramural golf competition is each Wednesday afternoon.



Today - Sand volleyball tournament, CMAFS Mountain Man Park, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Today - 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, CMAFS tunnel area, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Today - 5K Fun Run, CMAFS, 11:30 a.m.

Today, Saturday - Relay for Life, you can earn May Fitness points on these days at Mesa Ridge High School in this fight against cancer. This is a team effort for 8-15 people per team. For information, call 556-3212.

Saturday - 1.5 Mile Family Walk, CMAFS, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday - Dodgeball at the fitness center, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

May 18 - Health fair at the fitness center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

May 18 - Armed Forces 5K Fun Run at the fitness center, 11:30 a.m.

May 21-24 - 5-on-5 Soccer Tournament, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

May 21-24 Shuffleboard Tournament at the fitness center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

May 25 - Walking Tour of Garden of the Gods, \$10. Wear your hiking boots and bring

your lunch. Community Activitis Center furnishes sodas and water. Van departs CAC at 10 a.m., returns about 4 p.m.

May 28 - Memorial Day: The fitness center is open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

May 29-31 - Indoor Volleyball Tournament at the fitness center, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

May 30 - Military Retiree Health and Fitness Day, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Events include a walk on the Fit Trail, aqua aerobics, bowling, Cybex room workout, a senior fitness survey with the HAWC, and a lunch and featured speaker at the enlisted club. For details, call Margie Arnold at 556-4598.

May 31 - May Fitness Month closing ceremony at the fitness center, 1 p.m. All prizes will be awarded.

Ongoing Programs

Intramural Soccer, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; intramural softball Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.; and summer lunch time sports; for information, call Les Stewart at 556-4475 or 556-7708. For information about spinning and aerobics classes, call 556-4462.

All May Fitness Month activities at the Fitness Center are free.

For more information on these events, call Christopher Hicks or Senior Airman Bonnie Miller at 556-1515. May Fitness Month calendars are available at the Fitness Center.

Air Force cyclist rides across America

by Staff Sgt. Jason Tudor
Air Force Print News

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - With more than 1,100 miles behind him, a master sergeant is cycling across the United States, carrying a message to airmen and potential recruits along the way.

Master Sgt. Wayne Bartlett started his trek at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., May 1 with 27 others who will bicycle almost 3,400 miles, to Andrews Air Force Base, Md., by June 1. Bartlett, a 20-year Air Force veteran and cycling enthusiast from Andrews, said he is making the journey to focus attention on Air Force recruiting and retention. Bartlett is also the lead non-commissioned officer for the Air Mobility Command's Year of Retention and Recruiting initiative at Andrews.



Bartlett

Bartlett has already spoken with a slew of recruiters, delayed entry recruits and others about the merits of an Air Force career. He emphasized how ordinary people can do extraordinary things, and how the service allows the latitude for its people to soar. So far, it seems, his message and contagious energy are getting

through.

"We hope that we're going to get the attention of people who might not realize that the Air Force is a place where they can be challenged, where they can explore their own limits and where they can do unusual things," Bartlett said.

Bartlett is using permissive temporary duty time to make the bike ride, which was funded by AMC agencies using Year of Recruiting and Retention funds.

Each daily leg of the journey averages about 115 miles, through the gamut of weather conditions, over mountains and dicey terrain.

When the journey ends, Bartlett wants to draw attention to his core reason for making the journey -- drawing people into and retaining current Air Force people.



U.S. Army photo

Steppin' out

Lt. Gen. Joseph Cosumano, (far left) the new commanding general of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, takes an early morning run with Deputy Commanding General for Operations, SMDC and U.S. Army Space Command, Richard V. Geraci (center). Joining them on their May 4 run through the streets of Peterson Air Force Base are team ARSPACE. Cosumano assumed command of SMDC April 30 and spent his first week as commander visiting ARSPACE headquarters, attending a CINCSpace commander's conference in Colorado Springs, and serving as guest speaker for the annual ARSPACE Birthday Ball.

Sports

Shorts

Softball tournament

A softball tournament sponsored by the 50th Security Forces Squadron scheduled for June 2-3, at the Peterson Air Force Base softball fields. There is an entry fee of \$125 per team. Only squadron teams are eligible to enter. Trophies will be awarded for the top three teams. Teams need to register by May 20. Call Staff Sgt. Brian James at 567-5628 or Staff Sgt. Cyrus Ford at 567-2175 to register and for more information.

Silver Spruce Golf Course

There will be golf club demonstrations by PowerBilt and Square Two Golf Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the driving range.

Weekday tee times are now required. Call 556-7414 to schedule a time.

Outdoor recreation

Outdoor recreation needs volunteers to be drivers for adventure trips into the wilderness areas of Colorado.

Volunteers are also needed to help with outdoor recre-

ation's adventures in rafting, camping, hiking, canoeing, ATV trips and kayaking programs. Call Scott Hackney at 556-4867 or 556-4487 for more information.

Federal Cup 5K race

The 18th annual Federal Cup five-kilometer race for runners and racewalkers is May 19, 8:15 a.m., at the Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, Colo.

The race also features a 1K fun run for children as well as refreshments, medals and trophies for winning individuals and teams, and a prize drawing for all 5K participants.

Commemorative T-shirts will be available for \$7 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Team categories include men, women, co-ed, masters and seniors. The pre-registration entry fee is \$5 (\$10 on race day).

More specific Federal Cup information, including race entry forms and past race results, are available at the Federal Cup home page at: <http://fedcup.homestead.com>.

Classifieds start here